Applicants respectfully submit that pending claims 1-41 contain allowable subject matter.

If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17 that are not enclosed herewith, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-5407.

Should the Examiner be of the view that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of this Preliminary Amendment, please call the undersigned at (631) 738-5586.

Respectfully submitted,

y:

Mark I. Koffsky

Reg. No. 41,906

Dated:

12/27/01

<u>ATTACHMENT A – SHOWING MARKUP OF CHANGES</u>

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1 first complete paragraph (beginning on line 11) has been AMENDED as follows:

This application claims the benefit of provisional application [of] U.S. Serial No. 60/246,222 [09/483,167], filed November 6, 2000.